selected from the group consisting of: OH, CO_2R^4, Br, Cl, F, I, CF_3, $N(R^5)_2$, $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkoxy, $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_8)$-alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_8)$-alkynyl, $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl, $CO(CH_2)_nCH_3$, and $CO(CH_2)_nCH_2N(R^5)_2$;

R^2 is: OR^4 or $N(R^5)_2$;

R^3 is:

(a) $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl,
(b) $(C_2$-$C_8)$-alkenyl,
(c) $(C_2$-$C_8)$-alkynyl,
(d) $(C_3$-$C_7)$-cycloalkyl,
(e) aryl, wherein aryl as defined above,
(f) heteroaryl, wherein heteroaryl as defined above,
(g) -CHO,
(h) -CO-$(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl,
(i) -CO-aryl,
(j) -CO-heteroaryl, or
(k) - CO_2R^4;

n is: 0 to 5;

t is: 0, 1 or 2;

R^4 is: H, or $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl;

R^5 is: H, $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl or aryl, wherein aryl as defined above;

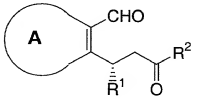
R^6 is: H, $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl or aryl, wherein aryl as defined above; and

R^7 is: H, $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl, aryl or alkyl, wherein aryl is optionally substituted with one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of: OH, CO_2R^4, Br, Cl, F, I, CF_3, $N(R^5)_2$, $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkoxy, $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_8)$-alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_8)$-alkynyl, $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl, $CO(CH_2)_nCH_3$,

and $CO(CH_2)_nCH_2N(R^5)_2$, or when two R^7 substituents are on the same nitrogen they can join to form a ring of 3 to 6 atoms;

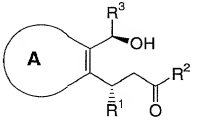
comprising the steps of:

(1) reacting a Grignard reagent with a conjugate adduct compound of Formula II,



II

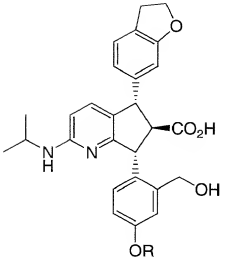
in the presence of a first aprotic solvent and optionally an additive at a temperature range of about -80°C to about 30°C to give a Grignard addition product of Formula III; and



III

(2) adding phosphoramide reagent to a mixture of the Grignard addition product of Formula III, a second aprotic solvent and a base at a temperature range of about -80°C to about 30°C to produce the desired compound of Formula I.

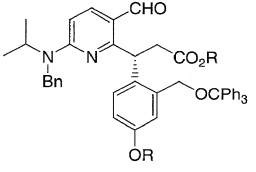
A preferred embodiment of the present invention is a process for preparing a compound of Formula Ia,



Ia

wherein R is independently H or (C_1-C_6)-alkyl comprising the steps of:

(1) reacting ArMgX reagent with a conjugate adduct of Formula IIa,



IIa

in the presence of a first aprotic solvent at a temperature range of about -80°C to about 30°C to give a Grignard addition product of Formula IIIa, and